

MUSICAL AMERICA



Edited by *John F. Freund*

Vol. III. No. 22

NEW YORK, SATURDAY, APRIL 14, 1906

\$1.00 per Year
Five cents per copy

THOMAS ORCHESTRA AT ODDS WITH UNION

**CHICAGO FEDERATION DEMANDS A
RAISE OF \$10 A WEEK FOR
MUSICIANS.**

**Management of Symphony Organization Refuses
to Meet Request and Complete Break Is Threat-
ened—Present Season Not Affected.**

CHICAGO, April 9.—With the demand that the salaries of the Theodore Thomas Orchestra players be raised from \$25 to \$35 a week, the local Federation of Musicians last Friday threw down the gauntlet to Chicago's orchestra. A clash between the two organizations which may involve the severance of the orchestra from the Union is imminent, since the management has announced its intention of refusing to yield.

The action of the Union followed the refusal of the orchestra to accede to demands made last week. Seventeen extra men were needed for the concerts, which were to be given on March 30 and 31. The Union was under agreement to furnish these men for \$16 each for the two concerts, but demanded \$25.

The orchestra directors stood firmly for the agreement, and a break was averted by the agreement of the Union to accept the contract salary.

There are eighty-four players in the orchestra, and the increase means \$840 a week, which the managers of the orchestra say they will be unable to pay.

The present season, which will close on April 28, will not be affected by the new demands of the Union, as the resolutions provided only for the coming season, which begins next October. All the Thomas musicians are under contract at the \$25 rate for the entire next season. The carrying out of the plans of the Union will make it necessary for its members to break their contracts.

VOLKNER NAMED TO REPLACE NIKISCH

**Actor Will Manage Leipzig Stadttheater
Under Modified Form of Lease.**

LEIPSIK, April 9.—Robert Volkner has leased the Stadttheater for eight years, and has been exempted from certain financial obligations formerly included in leases, and has been instructed to look up recognized artists to conduct the opera.

Immediately after the resignation of Arthur Nikisch, Frau Staegemann was released from the obligations of her contract, and Volkner, who is an actor, taking her place. At present the dramatic offerings of the theatre are under the direction of Herr Porst, with occasional operas produced by a young Englishman named Coates.

Miss Orthen to Study Abroad.

The Liederkrantz Damen Verein, of New York, recently tendered a Lenten recital to Marie Orthen. Miss Orthen is a pupil of Mme. A. Lankow and her assistant, Jennie K. Gordon. The proceeds of the concert enabled Miss Orthen to go to Leipzig, where she will sing in concert and study repertoire for opera under Prof. Zoellner. Miss Orthen is remarkably gifted, and her friends predict a bright future for her.

Aeolian Company Concert.

The soloists at the Aeolian Company concert in New York on April 7 were D. Byron McClusky, basso, and Ernest Hunter, organ. An attractive programme of Chopin, Handel, Moszkowski, Liszt and Hastings numbers was presented.



MME. ANTOINETTE SZUMOWSKA,
Noted Pianiste, and Her Two Children. (See page 4.)

UTILIZED PHONOGRAPH.

**Australian Singer Has Voice Tested in
a Unique Way.**

LONDON, April 10.—A young woman in Australia thought she had a singing voice, but wanted expert opinion as to whether she would be justified in taking the long journey from her home to London to compete for a scholarship.

So she sang into a phonograph and sent the record to a well-known London professor of music and asked him if he would try the record and inform her if he thought her voice was good enough to try for the scholarship. The professor listened to the record, was duly impressed with the possibilities of the voice and wrote to say he thought she should try the examination.

She came to London, reached here just in time for the examination, and was one of two successful candidates out of 190 competitors.

To Open New Auditorium.

LEXINGTON, KY., April 10.—The opening of the new Auditorium in this city will be marked by two days' music festival on April 19 and 20. Gounod's "Redemption" will be sung by a chorus of 125 voices, under the direction of Edwin W. Glover, with Miss Combes, soprano; Glenn Hall, tenor; Frank Croxton, basso, and Charlotte Callahan, contralto, as soloists.

Entered at the Post Office at New York, N. Y., as Matter of the Second Class.

EDWARD MAC DOWELL GREATLY IMPROVED

**EMINENT COMPOSER RALLIES IN
AN ASTONISHING MANNER AND
MAY RECOVER.**

**Unexpected Gain in Mental and Physical Condition
Leads Family and Physicians to Hope for the
Best.**

The many friends and admirers of Edward MacDowell, the noted American composer, will be delighted and gratified to learn that during the last two weeks he has shown such astonishing improvement in his physical and mental condition as to have surprised his physicians and gratified his family beyond words.

While it is yet too early to hope that Mr. MacDowell may regain his health, his physicians and family have authorized MUSICAL AMERICA to state that it is not impossible that he may again resume his place in the world of music.

He is at present in New York City under the tender care of his wife, and as soon as the weather becomes more settled and a little warmer he will be removed to a farm in this State, where it is hoped the change of scenery and air and complete rest may restore him to his former usefulness.

CHOIR BOYS STRIKE

**Refuse to Sing in Same Chorus with
"Two Little Girls."**

The choir boys of the Tremont Methodist Church, Washington avenue and One Hundred and Seventy-eighth street, went on strike and spoiled the musical portion of the service last Sunday. Recently the choir master, Frank White, enlisted the services of two girls in the chorus, arousing the indignation of the male members. Protest was of no avail.

Then the boys of the choir took it up. On Thursday night, when rehearsal was called for a cantata, which was to have been sung Sunday, the boy singers told Mr. White that the "two little girls" must go or they themselves would walk out. Mr. White was unyielding and declined to arbitrate. Then Walking Delegate John Barnett called "pull the job!" and the boys deserted.

The cantata rehearsal was a hollow affair without them. The youngsters lingered outside, playing such Hallowe'en-like pranks as tying the churchyard gates with wire, and rattling pebbles against the windows. The cantata was not sung Sunday.

WILL DOUBLE COST OF THE CONCERTS

**Musicians' Demands May Interfere with
Montreal Symphony Plans.**

MONTREAL, April 10.—The financial result of this year's Symphony concerts will show a small balance on the right side. A new cause of anxiety has now arisen whereby J. J. Goulet, the conductor, is again in a quandary regarding next year's enterprise, through the demands of the Musicians' Union.

These men demand an increase in pay. The request was made previously, but Mr. Goulet succeeded in securing players for the season just ended at the prevailing rate.

However, now the players want to receive a rate similar to that in vogue in the United States, which will practically bring the cost of the orchestra to double what it is at present.

HONORS KUBEL'S MEMORY.

**Los Angeles Symphony Orchestra Pays
Tribute to Dead Critic.**

LOS ANGELES, April 9.—The Symphony Orchestra at its last concert, paid a tribute to the memory of E. F. Kubel, the well-known music critic who died recently. After the intermission a brief speech of appreciation of Mr. Kubel was made from the stage, and it was announced that instead of the Manfred "Vorspiel" (Reinecke) the orchestra would play the Chopin "Funeral March" in honor of the departed writer and musician. In this way the orchestral association did all that yet lay in its power to show honor to one who had been its faithful champion and co-worker for nine years.

The audience joined earnestly in the sentiment expressed by the orchestral association. The Chopin march was rendered with great feeling, Harley Hamilton conducting.

"Salome" Is Copyrighted.

WASHINGTON, April 10.—An application for the copyright of Richard Strauss's opera "Salome," libretto by Oscar Wilde, was filed to-day at the office of the Librarian of Congress.

SOUTH ATLANTIC STATES MUSIC FESTIVAL PLANS

EMINENT SOLOISTS TO ASSIST IN SERIES OF CONCERTS

SPARTANBURG, S. C., April 11.—The Twelfth Annual Festival of the South Atlantic States, which will open here two weeks from to-day, promises to be the most important event of its kind ever held in the South. Musicians throughout this section of the country are arranging to attend the series of concerts, and the attendance



ARTHUR L. MANCHESTER,
Conductor of the Converse College Choral Society, Which Will Sing at Festival.

bids fair to exceed the most optimistic expectations of those who are interested in the venture. The advance orders, before the seats were placed on sale, amounted to more than \$1,000. Since the opening of the sale, on March 19, the demands for seats have been unusually large.

Special arrangements have been completed with the railroads to provide for the transportation of visitors, and with the exception of the final choral rehearsals, under the direction of Arthur L. Manchester, all preparations are practically complete for the reception and entertainment of the city's guests.

The directors announce a number of new features which will add largely to the interest of the festival. The great success of last year has encouraged the management to take steps which they believe will result in the most attractive series of concerts ever given under the auspices of the Converse College Choral Society. The New York Symphony Orchestra, with Walter Damrosch directing will be an important factor in the presentation of the various programmes.

The soloists are Mme. Shotwell-Piper, soprano; Mme. Katharine Fisk and Marguerite Hall, contraltos; Ellison Van



INTERIOR VIEW OF CONVERSE COLLEGE HALL IN SPARTANBURG, S. C.
Auditorium in Which Concerts of South Atlantic States Music Festival Will Be Held, April 25, 26, and 27.

Hoose and Kelley Cole, tenors; Francis Rogers, barytone; William Harper, basso; David Mannes, violinist; Leo Schulz, cellist; Clarence Eddy, organist; Mary Hart Law, pianiste, and Mrs. Warren Du Pre, organiste.

There will be a Wagner Night, a Lyric Night, an Artists' Night, and the usual

will have the opportunity, for the first time, of hearing the great pipe organ in the college auditorium as a solo instrument with full orchestral accompaniment.

On Lyric Night a beautiful, descriptive lyric work, "The Passing of Summer," by Rossiter G. Cole, an American composer, will be given by chorus, soloists and full



KELLEY COLE,
Tenor Soloist at Festival

afternoon Symphony and Popular Concerts. On Wagner Night, the chorus will sing excerpts from "Lohengrin," "Tannhauser" and the "Meistersinger," and Mr. Damrosch will conduct representative orchestral and solo numbers from these operas. Those who attend the Festival this year



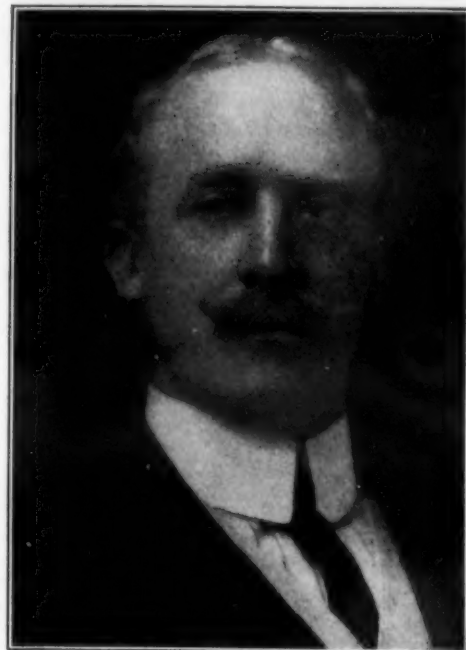
MME. KATHARINE FISK,
Contralto Soloist at Spartanburg.

orchestra, and the Choral Society will sing, unaccompanied, some part songs which were sung by the Cecilia Society of Boston in one of its recent concerts. The afternoon concerts will be exceptionally interesting, and Artists' Night will bring a new artiste in Mme. Katharine Fisk, who has

SPARTANBURG GETTING READY TO RECEIVE BIG CROWDS

sung in place of Nordica in London, England, with great success.

The Festival as an institution entered upon a somewhat different era with the opening of its second decade. Dr. Peters retired from his position in the Converse faculty a year ago, and in seeking for his successor, the college had the exceptional fortune to obtain the allegiance of Professor Arthur L. Manchester, of Boston,



WILLIAM HARPER,
Principal Basso at Forthcoming Festival.

one of the most finished musical educators of the country. As an editor of musical publications, twice president of the Music Teachers' National Association, until the present year the editor of the Association's official organ, and member of the committee appointed under the auspices of the New England Education League to formulate a course of major elective music study for high schools, Mr. Manchester has already in his career made a brilliant name for himself, though still a young man scarcely at the prime of his power.

The college's handsome auditorium is a considerable factor in the success of the Festival. Its 1,380 seats are disposed to such admirable effect that none can be called inferior. Other seats may be placed so as to make the capacity 2,000. The organ is a splendid creation. Few college organs in the country would rival it; for the heavy work of the chorus it proves entirely adequate. Externally it is a thing of tasteful beauty, and in tone it is as pure as it is powerful. With the chorus ranged in due array before the organ and the audience crowding the floor to the last sitting, the hall presents a scintillant picture, in itself a living complement to the social South, which it so eminently represents.

Tom Ward Will Conduct.

SYRACUSE, April 10.—Tom Ward, the popular associate conductor of the Syracuse Music Festival Association, has been engaged to conduct the music at Thousand Island Park, during July and August. Mr. Ward will have charge of the Sunday services in the Auditorium, and will give three or four important concerts during the season.

A chorus of 200 voices and a complete orchestra with prominent soloists will perform under Mr. Ward.

Dr. N. J. Elsenheimer, of the Cincinnati College of Music faculty, who leaves at the close of this season to fill an important position in a Chicago musical conservatory, was presented during the past week with a silver loving cup by the college choir, for whose extraordinary success he has been largely responsible for the past two seasons.

Series of Interesting Lectures.

At the Endowed Institute of Musical Art, New York, there were seven special lectures and a students' recital last week. Thomas Tapper, Waldo S. Pratt, W. J. Henderson and Morris Loeb lectured in their respective courses, "Music as a Culture Study," "The History of Music," "The Development of Vocal Art" and "Acoustics." H. E. Krehbiel's topic was "The Brass Instruments of the Orchestra." Prof. Dickinson, of Oberlin College, spoke on "The Appreciation of Music," and Robert Foresman on "Methods of Instruction in School Music."

Since her testimonial concert Mazie Homan has returned to her pianistic studies under Douglas Boxall at the Cincinnati Conservatory of Music. She will continue these until she takes passage for Europe in June. The expectation is that she will remain abroad for three years.

Paderewski's New Works.

Otto Floersheim writes to a friend in New York that "Paderewski, on his way from Leipzig to Paris, passed through Berlin, where he played for me his two new compositions, a piano sonata in E flat minor and a theme with variations and double fugue. Both are works of a superior order, more especially the sonata, which, in my estimation, is one of the grandest piano compositions that have been written since Brahms's op. 5 and Liszt's B minor sonatas."

After May 1st the following singers will compose the quartette at Lafayette Avenue Presbyterian Church, Buffalo, with George Bagnall as organist. Gertrude M. Lamb, soprano; Mrs. Greene, contralto; Alfred Wooler, tenor and choir director; William Wylie, basso.

A Long Distance "Faust."

SALT LAKE CITY, April 8.—The opera "Faust," played in Cheyenne, Wyoming, 600 miles away, was heard yesterday by long distance telephone in the convention of electricians in session here.

The National Opera Company was producing "Faust" in Cheyenne. The Rocky Mountain Telephone Company rigged up three large transmitters on the stage there and put three intensifiers in the hall here. The orchestra, the voices and even the applause could be distinctly heard.

J. Truman Wolcott, organist of the First Presbyterian Church of Detroit, has placed with a music publishing house of Philadelphia several of his manuscripts of church music, including "God Be With You." The other manuscripts are the anthems, "Abide With Me," "Not Far from the Gate," "When Our Work Is Ended" and "Waiting."

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